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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/921,926	08/06/2001	Haruo Miura	500.40450X00	8566

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EXAMINER

DUONG, THO V

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

3743

DATE MAILED: 12/02/2003

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/921,926

Applicant(s)

MIURA ET AL.

Examiner

Tho v Duong

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 21 October 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-19 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 6-19 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-5 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 01 August 2001 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application) since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121 since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

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DETAILED ACTION

Election/Restrictions

Claims 6-19 are withdrawn from further consideration pursuant to 37 CFR 1.142(b) as being drawn to a nonelected species, there being no allowable generic or linking claim. Election of species of figure 1-8 was made **without** traverse in Paper No. 7.

Specification

The disclosure is objected to because of the following: In the brief description of the drawing, the brief description of figure 8 is not accurate. Since figure 8 is just a cross sectional view of a first embodiment (B-B section of figure 6), it is not a cross sectional views of another embodiment.

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1-5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Steeb (US 4,473,111). Steeb discloses (figures 1,3 column 1, lines 25-39, and column 3, lines 1-8) a heat exchanger serving with a screw-type compressor comprising a heat exchanger nest having a plurality of low temperature chambers (4) through which a low temperature fluid flows and a

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plurality of high temperature chambers (3) through which a high temperature fluid flows, the chambers (3) and (4) being alternately arranged in layers through a partition plate (7) interposed between, wherein a flowing direction of the low temperature fluid in chamber (4) and high temperature fluid in chamber (3) are substantially orthogonal to each other, and the both ends of the layered heat exchanger nest are the low temperature chambers (4). Steep further discloses (figure 1) that there are 5 low temperature fluid chambers (4) and there are only 4 high temperature fluid chambers (3). As regarding the limitation of “the low temperature fluid is cooling water and the high temperature fluid is compressed air”, it has been held that a recitation with respect to the material intended to be worked upon by a claimed apparatus does not impose any structural limitations upon the claimed apparatus which differentiates it from a prior art apparatus satisfying the structural limitations of that claimed. *Ex parte Masham*, 2 USPQ2d 1647 (1987). In this instant application, the materials of the working fluids such as water and compressed air intended to be worked upon by the claimed heat exchanger does not imposed any structural limitations upon the claimed heat exchanger which differentiates it from Steeb’s heat exchanger satisfying the structural limitations of that claimed.

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Lorentzen (US 5,394,709) discloses a thermodynamic systems including gear type machines for compression or expansion of gases and vapors.

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Haugen (US 6,516,873) discloses a heat exchanger for a multi-stage air compressor including a screw compressor.

Beasley et al. (US 4,730,669) discloses a heat exchanger core construction having tubes disposed on outer edges of the heat exchanger.

Degroote et al. (US 3,907,032) discloses a tube and fin heat exchanger that has alternately layers of low and high temperature fluid flowing chambers.

Newman (US 4,776,387) discloses a heat recuperator with cross-flow ceramic core with a low temperature chambers disposed on the outer side of the heat recuperator.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communication from the examiner should be directed to Tho Duong whose telephone number is (703) 305-0768. The examiner can normally be reached on from 9:30-6 PM.

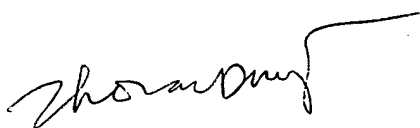
If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Henry Bennet, can be reached on (703) 308-0101. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0861.



TD

November 28, 2003



Tho Duong

Patent Examiner.